

**Memorandum
Community & Economic Development Department**



To: Thomas E. Thomas, City Manager
Subject: Metro Arts Proposal
Date: June 24, 2016

The following proposal comes from Margot Day, Community Engagement Specialist with Quad City Arts. The letter asks for \$5,000 to support the 2016 Metro Arts Summer Youth Apprenticeship Program. The 2016 program will be to design and paint benches located in downtown Rock Island.

This program, traditionally a summer program is transitioning to accommodate opportunities for student learning and community impact year-round. Youth ages 15-21 work as apprentice artists under the supervision of a professional artist to create original work that impacts the community.

Over the years, Rock Island projects have included the creation of banners and murals, street intersection artwork, the mosaic artwork located in Arts Alley, the creation of the large banners hanging on the west wall of The Stern Center, and learning the art of comedy improvisation from professionals at the Establishment Theatre. Students also placed mosaic artwork on the leg of the Lloyd's Trek sculpture in Schwiebert Riverfront Park and will be painting a mural on the north side of the Quad City Arts building. This program operates primarily at the Quad City Arts office located in the District.

The provided information from Ms. Day will outline the request and provide greater detail on this year's projects. All of the proposed projects have been reviewed by members of the Arts Advisory Committee and members of city staff. It is also worth noting that this summer program receives funding support from variety of public and private organizations.

RECOMMENDATION

The Community & Economic Development Department recommends that City Council accept the proposal from the Quad City Arts Metro Arts program and authorize the \$5,000 to support the program.

Vendor: Quad City Arts
Payment Amount: \$5,000
Fund: 207 Community/Economic Dev
Department: 312 Economic Development
Cost Center: 801 General Development
Object Code: 54101 Contributions/Sponsorship
Project: 0000
Grant: 223

Requisition Number: P004795

Submitted by: Jeffery A. Eder, CED Director
Kathryn Douglass, Computer Graphics Specialist

Approved by: Thomas Thomas, City Manager



Metro Arts Youth Apprenticeship Program

Contact: Margot Day, community engagement specialist, 309-793-1213, ext. 106; mday@quadcityarts.com

Request for funding

Quad City Arts respectfully requests funding from the City of Rock Island in the amount of \$5,000 to support artist and youth apprenticeships and the creation of public art through Metro Arts.

Metro Arts overview

In the Metro Arts Youth Apprenticeship Program, youth ages 15-21 work as apprentice artists under the supervision of a professional artist to create original work that impacts the community. The program aims to provide educational and work opportunities for youth, to provide professional development opportunities for artists, and to create accessible art for the community.

During the program, participants learn arts techniques and job skills through hands-on experience. They conduct research, develop ideas, prepare and deliver presentations, and create original art work. The participants receive a stipend for their work, to encourage accountability and distinguish the apprenticeship as a job experience.

Project

Quad City Arts will hire a professional artist and nine apprentice artists to design and complete the bench-painting. Labor to rebuild the benches will be provided by the Carpenter Training Center of the Quad Cities, with new wood and other material costs covered by Quad City Arts and the Metro Arts Program.

Support

This program has enjoyed long-term support from the city, and it is included as an important element of the city's Arts Plan.

The total cost of the project will be \$10,120. Support from Metro Arts sponsors and grantors will cover costs beyond support from the city

Examples of existing benches- Photos taken May 26, 2016



(continued)



Examples of past Metro Arts work

